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Voyennyye Znaniya

DOSAAF ORGAN ATTACKS FALSIFICATION OF MEMBERSHIP DATA, GENERAL APATHY TOWARD DOSAAF TRAINING WORK

Comment: This report presents information from two articles which appeared in Voyennyye Znaniya, monthly organ of Dosaaf (All-Union Volunteer Society for Cooperation With the Army, Navy, and Air Force). The two articles give an interesting picture of the present state of Dosaaf work, indicating widespread falsification of data on membership in Dosaaf and a general apathy toward participation in the society's military-sports training program.

DECISIONS OF USSR DOSAAF ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE -- Moscow, Voyennyye Znaniya,

The USSR Dosaaf Organizational Committee has discussed the results of work in increasing Dosaaf membership and the state of registration of members during the first 6 months of 1953.

While noting some improvement in increasing the society's ranks, the USSR Organizational Committee admitted that the task of drawing workers into the ranks of the defense society is still being carried out unsatisfactorily. the past 2 years, the society membership has grown by only 48.3 percent.

The unsatisfactory growth of Dosaaf ranks is explained primarily by the level of mass military work and lack of attention toward the creation of a material training base in primary organizations. Local Dosaaf directing organs frequently decide questions pertaining to an increase in membership without regard to military and sport training work and without consideration of the peculiarities of each factory, kolkhoz, and institution

The USSR Dosaaf Organizational Committee also pointed out cases of neglect in keeping membership records. In the majority of primary organizations, membership rosters are carelessly kept and have not been verified for a long time. City and rayon organizational committees have not received statistical

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data from many primary organizations for a considerable period of time, and several rayon and city organizational committies of Mogilevskaya, Semipalatinskaya, and other oblasts have engaged in actual deceit, deliberately exaggerating the number of members in the society.

The USSR Dosaaf Organizational Committee has ordered republic, kray, and oblast organizational committees to take concrete measures to insure membership growth. Special attention must be given to strengthening rural primary organizations and to attracting kolkhoz peasantry and rural intelligentsia

City organizational committees are urged to make extensive use of the experience of Leningrad and other cities in creating Dosaaf primary organizations in building managements for street committees for the basic purpose of training Dosaaf members to pass "Ready for Antiaircraft and Chemical Defense" requirements.

In order to regulate registration of Dosaaf members, the USSR Dosaaf Organizational Committee has ordered republic, kray, and oblast organizational committees to conduct an inspection of membership records in rayon and city organizations of the society during the last quarter of this year. The organizational committees have been told to put an end to cases of deceit and falsification of membership data, to investigate such cases, and to punish the guilty severely.

Rayon and city organizational committees are categorically forbidden to compile statistical reports not based on reports from primary organizations. Statistical reports for each quarter must be discussed and confirmed at meetings of organizational committees. Rayon and city organizational committees have been ordered to make a systematic inspection of the records of primary organizations.

INCREASE THE LEVEL OF MASS DEFENSE WORK -- Moscow, Voyennyye Znaniya, Nov 53

Dosaaf is passing through an important period. Elections to Dosaaf directing organs are now being held. Reports-elections meetings must be held in Dosaaf primary organizations before 20 November. These will be followed by rayon, city, oblast, kray, okrug, and republic conferences at which reports on the state and tasks of Dosaaf organizations will be given and elections of permanent committees and auditing commissions held. These committees will replace the temporary organizational committees now in existence.

Although during its more than 2 years of existence Dosaaf has achieved some success in mass defense and sport work, the activity of many Dosaaf organizations does not correspond to the patriotic demands placed upon them by members of the society and by the workers of the nation.

Unfortunately, the facts show that mass defense and sport work is still not a matter of paramount importance in many directing organs of Dosaaf and in many primary organization committees. At the beginning of the elections only about 20 percent of the members of the society were taking part in mass defense work and less than 10 percent were participating in sports work. A considerable number of primary organizations have no circles, courses, or sport teams. The training of Dosaaf members in aviation and naval specialties is particularily unsatisfactory. Only about 3 percent of the society's members are studying in naval training circles, and an even smaller number are enrolled in aviation training circles.

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Various organizational committees have given insufficient attention to such mass undertakings as the All-Union Sports Festival (Spartakiada) of Dosaaf primary organizations. In Irkutskaya Oblast, for example, the sports festival was virtually abandoned. In a number of oblasts of the RSFSR and in other union republics an insignificant number of primary organizations and members of the society took part in the sports festival.

Unfortunately, many organizational committees still underestimate the role of instructors, fail to work closely with them, and do not obtain a sufficient number of reserve officers and sergeants, engineers, technicians, teachers, and doctors as instructors.

Organizations of the society are not creating adequate training bases. In Kostromskaya Oblast, for example, one small-caliber rifle must be used by 12 primary organizations. How can one talk of the mass character of rifle sports under such conditions? In the Latvian SSR, Dosaaf organizations which are located along rivers or on the Baltic Sea do not even have a dozen boats at their disposal: There are few target ranges, parachute towers, and motordromes.

The new training year in Dosaaf organizations begins on 1 January 1954. It is the task of Dosaaf committees to draw as many members of the society as postraining of workers in antiaircraft and chemical defense, and to popularize military type sports.

Rifle sports, in particular, must be strengthened, and it is essential for every primary organization to set up circles for the training of Marksmen Third Class. Rifle sports must become the most "mass" type of sport in Dosaaf.

Organizations of the society must, with the Komsomol, establish conditions which will ensure that all youths of pre-draft age engage systematically in a military-type sport. It is the task of Dosaaf to see that every boy has passed the requirements of Sportsman Third Class in at least one type of sport, before he is drafted into the army or navy.

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